United Nations ST/IC/2007/18

Secretariat

21 June 2007

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff at Headquarters

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management

Subject: **Hourly wage for household employees on G-5 visas**

1. The purpose of the present circular is to inform staff members who hold a G-4 visa and employ a household employee to whom a G-5 visa has been granted of a communication received from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations (see annex to the present circular), regarding the increase in hourly wage to be paid to such household employees.

2. The United States Mission recalled that, for all hours worked, personal servants, attendants and domestic workers who are in the United States in G-5 visa status must be paid the greater of the minimum wage under United States Federal and State laws or the prevailing wage in the location where they are employed.

3. According to the United States Department of Labor 2007 wage determination for domestic employees, the prevailing hourly wage has been established at $9.47 per hour for the New York City metropolitan area. As this amount exceeds the federal minimum wage, **effective 16 May 2007**, all domestic employees on G-5 visas in the New York City metropolitan area must be paid according to the prevailing wage.

4. All new contracts between domestic workers and their employers must reflect the updated amount.

* The present circular, which will be in effect until further notice, supersedes ST/IC/2005/34.

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Annex

Note verbale dated 16 May 2007 from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and has the honour to refer to its diplomatic circular HC-53-05 dated June 10, 2005 regarding the employment of personal servants, attendants and domestic workers who are in the United States in non-immigrant G-5 visa status. The United Nations Secretariat, and in particular its Visa Committee, should note that for all hours worked, such domestic workers must be paid the greater of the minimum wage under United States Federal and State laws or the prevailing wage in the location where they are employed.

The United States Mission to the United Nations wishes to inform the United Nations Secretariat that the United States Department of Labor prevailing wage statistics for domestic employees included in its annual Occupational Employment Survey have been updated for 2007. The prevailing hourly wage for "Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners" is now $9.47 per hour in the New York City metropolitan area. As this amount exceeds the federal minimum wage of $5.15 per hour, effective as of the date of this note, all domestic employees must be paid according to the prevailing wage. In addition, all new contracts between domestic workers and their employers must reflect the updated amount.